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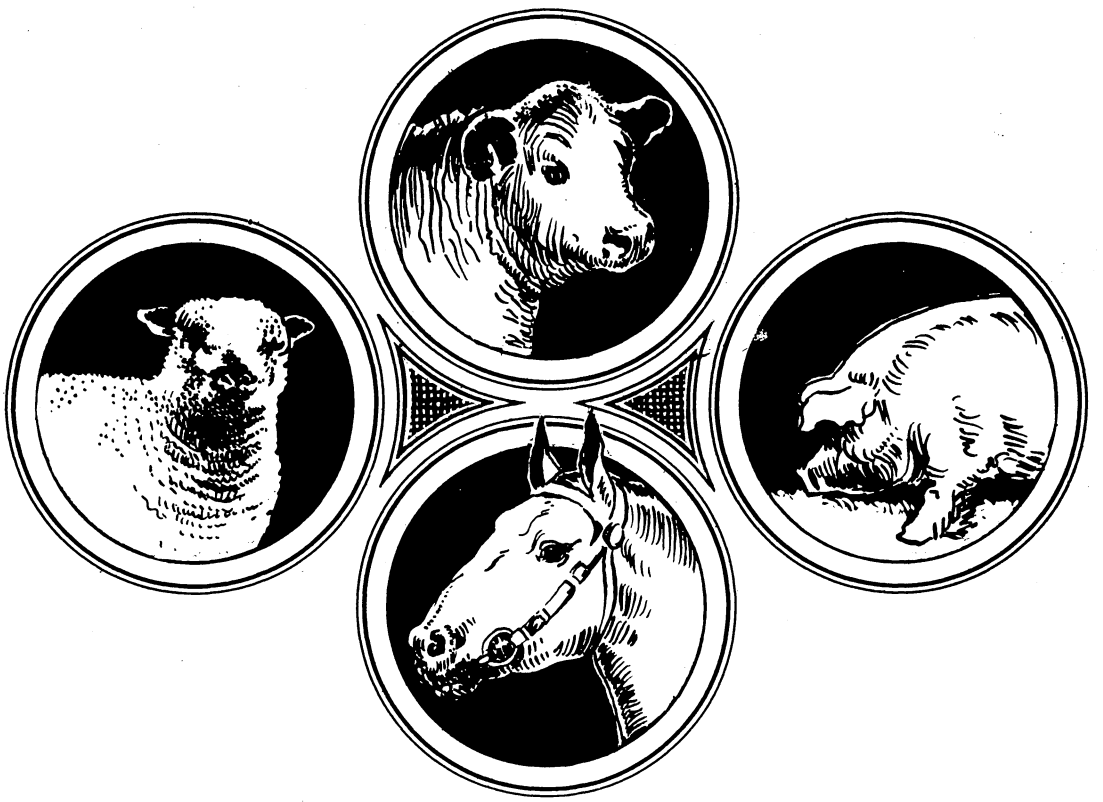
The EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON,
D.C.

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THE EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN

Issued quarterly by the Bureau of Animal Industry
and Extension Service, Cooperating.
C. D. Lowe, Senior Extension Animal Husbandman,
K. F. Warner, Animal Husbandman in Meat Extension.

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METHOD, AN AID IN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY EXTENSION ACCOMPLISHMENT

By Chas. V. Wilson, Assistant Professor,
Animal Husbandry Extension, West Virginia University.

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Since the inception of extension work, agricultural colleges have graduated many students who entered college with the thought of becoming county agents or other extension workers. These students pursued courses of study that they believed, or were advised, would fit them to accomplish their purpose. They worked intensively on subject matter, they took training in psychology, public speaking, sociology, and education and finally found themselves on the job.

After graduation many of these men started work, as they supposed, fully equipped for extension duties. They had a pleasant way of meeting people; they were energetic, enthusiastic, confident. In conference with extension leaders, specialists, and farmers, they formulated a plan of work with definite projects that undoubtedly were worthy.-projects that apparently would appeal to many of their farmers and that would secure hearty mass cooperation.

One by one, however, these well-trained young men discovered that one phase of their education had been neglected. They lacked a full and complete knowledge of what method, idea, device, or means of persuasion might be used to enlist the individual as a participant in their work. In short, they had yet to learn human behavior as manifested by each individual and they found that many times the success or failure, the adoption or rejection of their project, hinged upon individual participation or non-participation.

The writer has had opportunity to observe the methods of a number of these young men who undertook to succeed with definite extension animal husbandry projects. These men were confronted with the problems of human behavior, of winning the support of individual key men and groups of men. Many of them succeeded; it is of these I write.

"Shorty" graduated some ten years ago and was placed in a livestock county as an agricultural agent. He had grown up on a good livestock farm, was above average as a student and all indications were that he would become one of the top-flight agents in record time. Not so. For several years his accomplishments were below average. His program of work appeared worthy, and he tried hard to interest his

farmers in definite projects. He frankly admitted that he was not securing the cooperation of his farmers to the degree he had a right to expect.

At a time when he was most discouraged he decided to adopt a sheep and lamb improvement project that was being successfully carried on by a number of agents in the state. This project was one that called for increased use of purebred rams, a better ewe flock, the production and feeding of legume hays, pasture improvement, docking and castration, parasite control, and the grading and cooperative marketing of wool and lambs. He saw clearly that he had a motivating device in the marketing phases of the project and that if he made the most of this opportunity he could influence the production phases of the project.

It is only fair to "Shorty" to state that although his previous project work had not been very effective because of lack of farmer participation, he had been making contacts and forming friendships with a large number of his farmers and he knew the key men whose support he must enlist if he were to succeed.

"Shorty" did more than make the acquaintance of his key men. He studied their whole background, how they lived, what they were interested in, what they admired, and what they disliked. "Shorty" took no personal part in politics, but he thoroughly understood the political views and alliances of his farmers. He studied and knew much about their religious adherences, economic status, and social connections and aspirations. In brief he learned, insofar as he could, their personalities and what would motivate these leaders. Through this study "Shorty" was enabled eventually to solve his problem of securing the cooperation of his key men, and in turn the cooperation of a large number of additional farmers who looked to the key men for leadership.

Let me illustrate: "Shorty" had a key farmer in one community whom we will call "Andy." "Andy" was a Farm Bureau member and on the executive committee. He was in sympathy with extension work and helped set up "Shorty's" plan of work. He supported "Shorty" with the exception that he did not participate in any of the definite projects. He was an excellent livestock farmer, a leader in his community. His lambs and wool commanded the attention of many dealers because of their volume and quality. Then, too, the dealers found that if they secured "Andy's" lambs and wool they could also secure those of his neighbors.

"Shorty" knew that "Andy's" cooperation was essential to his

whole production and marketing project with lambs and wool. His problem was to secure "Andy's" support and participation. His study of "Andy" disclosed two vulnerable points -- two distinct avenues that should prove effective in finally gaining "Andy's" support. One was, as "Shorty" expressed it, "Andy's" pocket-book nerve. The other was "Andy's" sense of responsibility to his neighbors as their leader. "Andy" knew his neighbors patterned their decisions after his. While this flattered and pleased him, it also caused him to weigh his actions carefully. "Andy" desired to retain his leadership.

Armed with the facts, "Shorty" sat down with "Andy" and discussed the situation in detail. "Shorty" had found, by careful check, that cooperative marketing would have benefitted "Andy" several hundred dollars and would likewise have benefitted "Andy's" neighbors. He had the facts, he discussed them with "Andy" and "Andy" fully agreed to their correctness. This phase of the discussion concluded, "Shorty" turned to the other phase, "Andy's" leadership of and responsibility to his neighbors. Make no mistake, the pocket-book angle interested "Andy" but the second phase, his responsibility, got and held his undivided attention.

"Shorty" said to him: "'Andy,' without flattery I am able to say to you, and you know it is true, that you do not need the services of the cooperative marketing association despite the fact that it would net you more money. But 'Andy' your neighbors need the services and the saving they could effect. We both know they follow your lead. We need your support in order to gain your neighbors' support. Think over the whole matter and decide. I want you to take time. There is no need to hurry."

"Shorty" knew his man. "Shorty" knew that "Andy" took his responsibilities to his neighbors seriously. A queer expression had come into "Andy's" face as "Shorty" made his statement. "Andy" took his time. He did not participate that season. He sold his lambs early and lamb prices continued to climb so that "Andy" and his neighbors who followed his lead were two to three cents under the market. "Shorty" kept careful check.

The following spring "Andy" sent for "Shorty" to assist him with his lambs and calves. "Shorty" went. He was sure "Andy" would participate. As they worked, "Shorty" asked him if he had decided about the lambs. "Andy" replied, "You know, 'Shorty,' I had a chance to sell my cattle last fall to 'George' at an advantage provided I would promise him my lambs." He gave "Shorty" a full account of the transaction.

"Shorty" worked on pleasantly. When they went to the house to wash up for dinner "Shorty" said, "Well, 'Andy,' what about the wool?" A most peculiar expression came into "Andy's" face and he said, "'Shorty,' I promised my wool last fall before I thought what I was doing. I fully intended to cooperate this year. I just never thought." Somehow "Shorty" knew that "Andy" was telling him the truth. Nevertheless, "Shorty" was licked. He finished drying his hands and began to talk about other matters.

During a pause "Andy" turned back to the marketing subject again: "There is something more I want to say about marketing, 'Shorty.' Hereafter, I am going to market my lambs and wool cooperatively, and I am going to advise my neighbors to do likewise." He kept his word and today that community is in the lead as supporters of the several phases of the lamb and wool improvement project.

"Pete," a classmate of "Shorty's," went to work in a county that, in his judgment, required a number of community farm organizations in order that effective work might be accomplished. "Pete" had little difficulty in securing the organization of fourteen of the fifteen community groups but on the fifteenth he failed. This was a community made up largely of adherents to a particular religious group and the group had a resident leader. "Pete" studied the problem and at length determined that only through their leader could he hope to interest these men. His conclusion was based on the fact that they turned to this man for counsel and advice and regarded him as their leader.

"Pete" had a doctor friend who rendered professional service in this particular community, and he put his problem up to his friend and asked him for help. In reply the doctor said, "Yes, I'll talk it over with the leader, and I'll take you to see him." The doctor did talk it over with the leader, but before he had an opportunity to make the leader and "Pete" acquainted, "Pete" met the leader on a road. "Pete" recognized him from description and hailed him, called him by name, and asked if he was so and so. "That I be" replied the leader.

"Pete," after introducing himself, explained along broad lines what he hoped to accomplish in that particular community. To "Pete's" question of how best to accomplish his purpose, the leader answered, "Call a meeting." "When?" asked "Pete." "Next week, Monday night," stated the leader. And to "Pete's" next question, "Where," the leader said, "In the meeting hall." This hall was church property, hence "Pete's" question.

The next Monday night 45 farmers, the leader, and "Pete" met

in the hall and "Pete" set forth in detail his aims and objectives. The leader endorsed what "Pete" had proposed and was elected secretary. A farmer, not a member of that religious group, was elected president and inside of a year the group of 45 men, their opportunities considered, were the most active participants in the several projects of any of the 15 organized communities.

Just as "Shorty" had succeeded because he knew where the mainspring of that community was located, so "Pete" discovered by study that a proper approach or method would secure the desired results. A study of the human factors, of human action and response, of motivation enabled each to solve a problem.

"Jack" another county agent became enthusiastic over the lamb-grading phase of cooperative marketing as a means of more effectively teaching his farmers the value of the use of purebred rams, the feeding of legume hay to the ewe flock in winter, of feeding grain to the lambs that were underweight and underfinished before marketing them, and of controlling parasites. His key man in one community was "Uncle Bob Kelly." He knew through the Home Demonstration Agent that "Aunt Kate," "Uncle Bob's" wife, wanted water put in the kitchen and that "Uncle Bob" had promised his wife all the lamb money over and above a certain sum.

"Jack" also knew that if "Uncle Bob" went along on his projects, four or five others would go, so he gave the matter careful study. He called on "Uncle Bob" one morning and found him in the yard. Of course, "Jack" was invited in on the porch and he accepted. So far as "Jack" was aware he and "Uncle Bob" were alone. He presented his ideas briefly and clearly, and in a half-joking, half-serious manner ended with the statement that "Uncle Bob" could put water in the house for "Aunt Kate" with the extra income he might derive from following "Jack's" suggestions.

Now, "Uncle Bob" was not nearly as much interested in the water works as he was in knowing how many of his lambs would grade Choice or "blue ribbons" as he called them, for "Jack" had explained how the graded lambs were marked. "Jack" sensed his interest on this point from the fact that "Uncle Bob" prided himself on growing the best lambs in his community. "Jack" explained what a lamb must be like to grade Choice or "blue" and ended with the statement, "If I could see your lambs I'd show you." Before "Uncle Bob" could reply "Aunt Kate," who had been seated in the living room but hidden by the window curtain, called to "Uncle Bob," "'Bob,' if you wasn't so lazy you'd take 'Jack' out and let him show you." "Yes, I can do that," "Uncle Bob" told "Jack".

The result of "Jack's" demonstration of what he meant by the several grades convinced "Uncle Bob" that his lambs would grade satisfactorily. Yes, "Aunt Kate" got the water and "Jack" secured the support of the additional farmers he had in mind, but the key to the situation was "Uncle Bob's" pride. As "Jack" put it, "Uncle Bob" participated because he wanted to see if he didn't have a higher percentage of "blue ribbon" lambs than any of his neighbors. It turned out that he did, but to get them he began to treat and feed certain lambs. And "Jack" says you should see his new ram and the alfalfa hay he put up for his ewes next winter.

Just what was "Jack's" method? He had so told his story that "Uncle Bob's" curiosity and competitive spirit were aroused. He really wanted to prove that he had Choice lambs. Pride of ownership and in his ability to make good lambs spurred him on. "Jack" knew his man and made his appeal effective because he did.

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TON-LITTER WORK

Pennsylvania reports that in the 12 years during which the ton-litter project has been conducted in the State, 759 ton-litters have been produced. Twenty-two of these litters were produced in 1935. During the existence of the project 59 of the 67 counties of the State have produced one or more ton-litters.

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Idaho for a 12-year period reports the production of 86 litters weighing a ton or more at a maximum age of 180 days.

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TRENCH-SILO WORK

Alabama reports that 715 trench silos were in use in the State in 1935 and that 148 of them were constructed that year. Georgia reports 171 trench silos dug in 1935. Mississippi reports 300 trench silos constructed by beef producers in 1935 with prospects for 400 more in 1936. Texas reports more than 1,000 trench silos dug in 1935. Utah reports that only 2 trench silos were known to be in use in that State in 1931. At present there are nearly 1,500 with a combined capacity of 75,000 tons.

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MAYNARD RESIGNS

E. J. Maynard, dean of the school of agriculture and part-time animal husbandry extension specialist at the Utah Agricultural College resigned on August 1, 1936, to accept a position with the Great Western Sugar Company at Billings, Montana.

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CUSTOM DIPPING OF SHEEP IN INDIANA

By Claude Harper, Asst. Chief, Division of Animal Husbandry,
Department of Agricultural Extension,
Purdue University.

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For a number of years, the Purdue Agricultural Extension Service has attempted to interest farmers in dipping their sheep for external parasites. Over a period of time, we have found that few farmers would equip themselves to dip the small flocks that are kept on many farms. In hundreds of these flocks the infestation of ticks and lice has done a great deal of damage annually to the wool clip. They have also injured the health and thrift of the young lamb crop and have been very annoying to the general welfare of the breeding flock.

Early in 1935 it was suggested to two county agricultural agents in the state, that custom sheep dipping equipment might solve this problem. These agents were in counties where the sheep program had been carried on extensively. It was believed, that if custom sheep dipping equipment could be developed, farm flock owners might become interested in dipping their breeding stock and lambs for the control of external parasites, and for the improvement of the shearing qualities of the ewes that might result. Hence, two custom sheep dipping outfits were developed in two counties in Indiana that year. The results of the work in these two counties have now been observed for two seasons.

The portable custom sheep dipping equipment consists of a dipping tank mounted on an old Ford chassis. A chute leads from the ground to the tank. From the tank the sheep pass to a drain board. From the drain pen another chute leads to the ground. The dipping tank is of medium size. The drain pen will hold three to four breeding sheep or six to seven 60-pound lambs.

In 1935, fourteen public sheep dipping demonstrations were held in the two counties. The total attendance at these meetings was 228 growers. The rainy, cold weather during May delayed shearing that year and also the dipping demonstrations which were held the first week in June.

By August 1st of that year more than 1,800 sheep and lambs had been dipped in Clay County, and more than 2,500 head of sheep and lambs had been dipped in Jay County as the result of the demonstrations. Before the season was over, the total number of sheep and

lambs dipped in both counties exceeded 5,000 head. There has not been a single word of criticism or discontent expressed to date by growers in these two counties that dipped sheep last year. For the most part, growers in these two counties redipped this year. There were a few, however, in one of the counties who did not dip their sheep this year because the dipping last year so thoroughly eliminated their external parasites, that they did not feel the necessity of redipping this year. In the other county every flock that was dipped last year signed up to dip again this spring.

There are now four custom sheep dipping outfits in Indiana located in the four counties of Jay, Clay, Adams, and Tippecanoe. The two outfits in Jay and Adams counties are privately owned. The one in the latter county was financed by the Resettlement Administration. The portable sheep dipping equipments in Clay and Tippecanoe Counties are owned by the County Farm Bureaus. A second sheep dipping outfit privately owned has also been put in operation in Jay County. These outfits cost approximately $150 each except where a special heater is put in the tank, which of course increases the cost. Some of the outfits are being equipped with special heaters to keep the solution at a definite temperature when dipping for ticks and lice, and in order that scabby sheep may be dipped during the winter months.

The charges made by all operators for dipping sheep and lambs has been ten cents per head. The operator furnishes the equipment, a recognized dip, and a portion of the labor. Where the County Farm Bureau owns the equipment, they hire a man to operate the outfit and conduct the program similar to that followed by the privately owned outfits. Tippecanoe County developed their custom sheep dipping equipment in the spring of 1936. The cost of the equipment was $155.45 and at the present time they lack only $17.57 of paying for it through its operations during June, July, and August of this year. A total of 2,482 sheep have been dipped in Tippecanoe County during that period. These flocks were owned by 76 different farmers and the total cost of operation including materials, mileage, license, and operators wages has been $128.40. The total cost of the equipment and operating expenses in Tippecanoe County has been $283.85 and the total receipts have been $266.28.

The sheep dipping equipment developed in Clay County last year essentially paid for itself. The Clay County equipment was exhibited at the Indiana State Fair in a class entitled County Organization Exhibits. It won second place in competition with exhibits from eighteen other counties.

At the present time there are indications that there will be

somewhere between eight and a dozen additional portable sheep dipping outfits put into operation in Indiana during 1937. We have never given any special publicity or encouragement in the development of this program. We have wanted to see how it would operate and have been observing results rather than promoting the program. In spite of this lack of promotion, blue prints of equipment have been sent to county agricultural agents in Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Wyoming, Montana, and Iowa. All of these blue prints have been requested. We have had a total of 28 inquiries concerning the portable sheep dipping equipment and its operation from sources outside of Indiana, mostly county agricultural agents.

It is our firm conviction that if farmers ever dip their sheep and lambs on an extensive scale, it will be through some such program and plan as was developed here in Indiana during the past two years. Very few farmers will spend the money or go to the trouble of equiping themselves in order to dip their own small flocks.

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LAMB GRADING IN VIRGINIA, 1935

39,935 lambs from 24 counties with a market weight of 2,888,920 pounds were graded during the year. The average market weight of all lambs graded was 72.3 pounds. The average shrinkage from home weight to market weight was 9.6 percent.

Lambs graded as Choice totalled 4,783 head; Good and Choice combination, 15,688 head; Good, 8,045 head; Good bucks, 657 head; Medium, 7,966 head; Medium bucks, 810 head; Common (including cull), 1,986 head.

The average price received per hundredweight for all lambs graded was $9.34; net to producers, $7.57.

The net returns to producer by grade per hundredweight were: Choice, $8.08; Good and Choice, $7.80; Good, $7.77; Good bucks, $6.82; Medium, $7.15; Medium bucks, $6.33, and Common, $5.32.

The net returns to producer by grade per head were: Choice, $6.83; Good and Choice, $6.51; Good, $6.33; Good bucks, $6.23; Medium, $5.21; Medium bucks, $5.07 and Common, $3.32.

U. S. Grades have been the basis for the lamb grading work in Virginia, which has been conducted through cooperation of the following agencies: Virginia State Department of Agriculture; U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics; and the Virginia Extension Service.

A complete report of the year's work may be obtained by addressing J. H. Meek, 1030 State Office Bldg., Richmond, Va.

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1935 HORSE NOTES

Iowa

Interest in horses and horse breeding has increased greatly in the past year. Some phase of work was included in the programs of 90 counties. Colt Clubs were organized in 88 counties with a total membership of 1332. Colt shows were held either in connection with fairs or as special county or community colt or horse shows in 92 counties. Demonstrations in the use of multiple hitches and in colt breaking and training were held in 20 counties. A total of 54 demonstrations were held.

Interest in the purchase of stallions and brood mares was the greatest in many years. While horses in Iowa have shown a decrease in numbers each year for a number of years the low point in production of colts was reached in 1931. The yearly decrease in total numbers of horses since that time has come about because of the advanced age and high death rate of the adult horse population. 1932 saw a considerable increase in the number of colts raised and each year since has seen a further increase in the colt crop.

Ohio

The Highland County Breeders Association carried out a very effective bot-treating campaign in the winter months. This was organized on a community basis and around 2,000 head of horses were treated for bots. Local veterinarians handled this work on the basis of treating all horses on each farm they visited for a cost of 50¢ per head. This was a very popular piece of work and it is to be repeated this coming winter.

4-H COLT CLUBS: This project was taken up in 44 counties in the State during 1935, which is exactly double the number of counties in which club members enrolled in this project in 1934. The total enrollment was 320 first year club members, 49 second year, and 7 third year. At several county fairs and county colt shows a special class for 4-H colt club members made an excellent showing. This was particularly true of Henry, Highland, Fairfield, and Clark counties, and in Clark County the 4-H colt club show proved to be a big feature of the 4-H livestock Achievement Day. A unique feature about this 4-H colt club project has been the fact that the greatest interest and the largest enrollment has occurred in counties not normally recognized as important horse-producing centers. Other counties that are well known for their production of high-class horses have not had the enrollment to date that some of the other counties have had. The increased enrollment in colt club work is in line with the general interest in draft-horse breeding.

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SOME LIVESTOCK EXTENSION ACTIVITIES IN MINNESOTA

By H. G. Zavoral, Extension Animal Husbandman,
Minnesota Extension Service.

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The two animal-husbandry specialists in Minnesota were both drafted to assist with the emergency agricultural problems. Since November, 1935, the writer has been devoting all of his time to regular project work, while W. E. Morris, the other specialist, is still devoting full time to the conservation program.

4-H Club Work

The 4-H club activities in Minnesota have grown to such an extent that they require a considerable part of the specialists' time. The club department's records show the following enrollment in livestock projects:

2500 pig-club members
1575 baby-beef club members
2895 lamb-club members
95 ton-litter club members
1015 colt-club members
35 advanced-sheep-project club members

Minnesota has five branch experiment stations. At each of these stations a week's short course is held annually for 4-H club members. From 700 to 1400 boys and girls attend each short course. The forenoons are usually devoted to class-room work, the afternoons and evenings to recreation.

In connection with the livestock projects instruction is given on selection or judging, feeding, management, fitting, and showing. A judging contest is held on the last day. The sub-stations are good places to hold these schools because of the livestock available for instructional use, as well as for their housing facilities.

In addition to these short courses, several club camps are held at different points in the State. Practical instruction is given at these camps. Many of the counties have 4-H club tours. Many parents accompany these tours. These tours have proved to be of great value because the boys and girls have the opportunity to see what the others are doing and to check methods with them. All tours include some meetings where instruction is given on feeding, fitting, and showing. Practice judging is also conducted in most of the livestock counties. In the fall achievement days are held. At this time the stock is selected by the specialist for the State fair (first week in

September) and the Junior Livestock Show (first week in November). As one example, at Albert Lea, Freedom County, there were over 100 barrows, 40 gilts, 125 baby beeves, 35 lambs, 20 colts and 150 dairy calves shown at the fair. Practically all of the owners, mostly boys, live on farms. Their parents are naturally interested in the same classes of livestock. If any sound practices are taught to these youngsters one can be reasonably sure they are taken home to their parents. 4-H club work is one of the best methods of teaching the better practices of agriculture. All of one's time could be devoted to this work alone, and still only a small proportion of the farmers would be reached. Printed material is prepared by the specialist for use in connection with these projects.

Freezer Lockers

During the meat-cutting demonstrations held last fall the freezer-locker system of cold storage was explained. Several communities have adopted the system. There are enough of these in use so that they are past the experimental stage. Outside of the drought area several new units will be constructed this fall and winter.

Lamb Grading and Drenching Demonstration

Each fall demonstrations on grading market lambs and drenching for parasites are held in the principal sheep-producing counties. The large number of unfinished lambs coming to the markets is due to poor feeding and the presence of parasites. At these meetings farmers themselves are asked to pick out top market lambs. These are compared with the unfinished or feeder lambs. Where possible a post-mortem is held to demonstrate stomach-worm infestation. The specialist brings equipment for drenching and each farmer is asked to drench a lamb. Circulars on drenching are distributed at all meetings. These meetings have been popular.

The Central Cooperative Marketing Association has cooperated in sending their field men to help conduct some of these meetings.

Docking and Castration Demonstration

Docking and castration demonstrations are held early in the spring. Market men have made the statement that there has been a decided decrease in long-tailed and buck lambs arriving at the market. Circulars on docking and castration, dipping, and shearing are distributed at these meetings.

Adult Projects

The adult projects carried on are: The lamb-production contest

and record of performance for sows, beef cows, and dual-purpose cows.

There are 80 farmers enrolled in the sow-testing project. Last spring the weather was such that county agents could not get out to some of these farms to weigh the litters. Many farmers have no scales and very few have large platform scales. Therefore, it will be hard to get accurate weights this fall. Sow testing is an excellent project but hard to carry out.

The outline of the project follows:

Minnesota Sow Testing Project

(This is not a contest between herds or breeds. It is a private record).

OBJECT: To select breeding stock from litters of pigs that weigh the heaviest at 56 days of age.

ENROLLMENT: Any farmer who will follow the simple procedure outlined may be officially enrolled by signing an application blank and mailing it to the county agent.

RULES:

1. Each litter of pigs must be ear notched within 7 days of farrowing and a report made on special card provided, showing the date of farrow, sire and dam, and number of live pigs of each sex.

2. Each litter must be weighed separately when 50 to 62 days of age. The county agent will assist in weighing and calculating all weights to a 56-day basis. To make this adjustment use the following formula: The actual weight of litter times 56, divided by the actual age.

3. Where possible litter weights should be taken at 180 days but if taken on other days between 179 and 190 days of age will be adjusted on the basis of 1-3/4 pounds per day per pig.

RESULTS: The results will show a difference in litters and the ones weighing the most at 56 days will weigh the most at 180 days. Sows will be culled on basis of litter weights. Gilts for breeding purposes should be selected from the heaviest litters.

The greatest benefit will come to the cooperators in helping them to select breeding stock from the best litters and making pork production more profitable.

No changes in the usual methods of feeding and marketing will be required.

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TECHNOLOGICAL INFLUENCES

"x x x Between 1910 and 1930, output per worker increased 39 percent in manufacturing and 41 percent in agriculture. In the five years between 1922 and 1926, agricultural production increased 27 percent, while crop acreage remained stationary and the amount of labor in agriculture actually decreased." x x x

"In 1787 it took 19 persons living on farms to produce enough for themselves and for one person in town. Today 19 persons living on farms can produce enough for themselves and for 66 persons living in town."

"x x x Between the end of the World War and the beginning of the depression, pork and lard production was increased 18 percent with 9 percent fewer hogs." x x x

"More of the gains of agricultural technology have accrued to industry and to the consumer than to the farmer. With agriculture, except in times of severe depression, more of the gains have accrued to the larger and wealthier commercial farmer than to the man with a relatively small farm or relatively poor land. x x x"

--Excerpts from address of Secretary Wallace at Council Bluffs, Iowa, August 11, 1936.

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER DATA

The number of cattle dressed under Federal inspection during the first 7 months of 1936 was 16 percent larger than the number dressed in the corresponding 7 months of 1935, and 20 percent larger than the 5-year average for the similar period.

The number of calves dressed under Federal inspection during the first 7 months of 1936 was 5 percent larger than in the similar period of 1935 and 13 percent larger than the 5-year average for that period.

The number of sheep and lambs dressed under Federal inspection during the first 7 months of 1936 was 5 percent smaller than in the corresponding period a year earlier and 4 percent smaller than the 5-year average for the similar period.

The number of hogs dressed under Federal inspection during the first 7 months of 1936 was 22 percent larger than the number dressed in the corresponding 7 months of 1935, and 23 percent smaller than the 5-year average for the similar period.

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4-H CLUB WORK IN NEW MEXICO ADVANCES

By W. L. Black,
Extension Animal Husbandman

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Probably the greatest increase in interest in the extension program on the part of the citizens of the State has been due to the increase in 4-H Club Work especially the baby beef calf clubs. The good price of livestock with relatively low feed prices has caused the institution of baby beef calf clubs in counties where such work had never been previously attempted. The livestock breeders have awakened to the fact that one of the best methods of bringing their feeder calves before the eyes of the buying public is through the medium of the 4-H calf club show. This has caused them to sponsor 4-H and Vocational-Agriculture Shows; to sell feeder calves to club members for prices they can afford to pay; and to endeavor to have the calves sell at the sales at prices that will assure the club members a profit on the year's operation.

Probably the most notable instance of this kind occurring in the State during the present year is the show and sale sponsored by the Tri-County Cattle Growers' Association and the Grant County Chamber of Commerce which will be held in Silver City, N. Mex., February 18, 19, 20, 1937. The funds for this show were raised by the membership of the above mentioned association assessing themselves 10 cents per head on the cattle rendered for taxation purposes for the year 1936. This resulted in the acquisition of more than $8,000 which was turned over to the Grant County Chamber of Commerce for purpose of conducting an advertising campaign to acquaint Corn Belt feeders with the type of feeder cattle produced in that section and for defraying the expenses of the proposed show. The money will be divided about equally, half of it being used for the purpose of putting on this show. This means that the total awards for the show including the open classes as well as the 4-H and Smith-Hughes classes will total approximately $4,000. Arrangements are already being made with various firms to purchase these calves at prices that will return a neat profit to the club members. In the event that the better animals shown in this show are good enough to be worthy representatives of the State at other 4-H Club exhibitions, they will not be sold at the sale following the show, but the owners will be assisted in showing them at other shows.

There will be a stock-judging contest held in connection

with this exhibition. This contest will be confined to novices. It is open to regularly enrolled members of Smith-Hughes vocational agriculture classes and to 4-H Club members. Members who have participated in interstate or national contests are not eligible. We feel that contests of this kind are doing a great deal towards stimulating the interest in livestock judging. It means that each county agricultural agent will have two teams in training. Teams may judge at this show and will be eligible to participate in State and National contests the following year. If both teams are trained together, the novice team will gain a great deal by hearing the reasons for placing given by the older experienced members who have taken part in contests of preceding years. The award for the champion stock judging team at this contest will be to have their expenses paid to the Southwestern Baby Beef and Hog Show which will be held at El Paso, Texas, the week following the show at Silver City. The team will be eligible to compete in the judging contest held in connection with the Southwestern Show. The winner at the Southwestern Show, if it happens to be from New Mexico, will in turn be eligible to compete at the State club contest and at national shows. A similar plan is being adopted by the other shows throughout the State. It should result in the teams competing at our State contest being exceptionally well-trained so that the winner of this contest will be a worthy representative of the State when competing in the larger shows.

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SOUTH CAROLINA REPORTS

During the year three new ice and cold storage plants began taking meat from farmers for curing. These plants are located at Aiken, Georgetown, and Newberry and bring the total number of plants in the State offering this service to 30.

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A total of 11,352 hogs, selling for $172,731.10 were marketed cooperatively during the year.

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450 boys and girls with 563 pigs in the fattening class, 32 boys and girls with 37 animals in the single breeding class, and 38 boys and girls with 284 pigs farrowed and 242 raised in the sow and litter class, cooperated in 4-H pig club work.

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62 farmers were assisted in obtaining purebred beef bulls, 12 in obtaining purebred rams, and 133 in obtaining purebred boars.

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1392 farmers were aided in home butchering, cutting, and curing of beef and 1882 with pork during the year.

--J. R. Hawkins in 1935 Annual Report.

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TEXAS SWINE DEMONSTRATIONS

During 1935 there were 512 swine production demonstrations completed with adult farmers. These demonstrations involved all phases of swine production and incorporated all of the hogs owned by the demonstrators.

The state is divided into 12 extension districts and from 5 to 190 demonstrators were located in each extension district. Most districts had about 50 demonstrations and in most instances there were a few demonstrations in each county within the district. This wide distribution of swine demonstrations was planned so as to reach all parts of the State.

The main object of these demonstrations was to produce economically a high quality of pork for home consumption. On farms and in regions where normally a surplus of grain feed is produced the object of the demonstrations was to provide a profitable market for the surplus feed grown on the farm.

The demonstrations were planned so as to take into account the natural advantages of each region. In surplus grain-producing regions the use of self-feeders and of feeding floors became an important part of the demonstration. In the most humid regions, the maximum use of grazing crops was stressed. On farms producing large numbers of hogs, swine sanitation and the prevention of parasites and diseases became one of the most vital parts of the demonstration.

The 512 demonstrations conducted involved 1738 brood sows from which 10,487 pigs were raised and marketed. This is an average of 6 pigs per litter. The feed cost of pork produced was 4.8 cents per pound and the average selling price was 9 cents per pound. From these figures it is quite evident that pork production was very profitable in 1935 and that hogs provided a most profitable means of marketing farm-grown grains.

In 1935 there were 893 swine demonstrations conducted with 4-H Club boys. For a number of years a sustained effort has been made to increase the size of the demonstrations conducted by the 4-H Club boys. The aim was to get the larger boys to own a sow and raise a litter of pigs so that they would experience all of the problems connected with commercial hog production. Very satisfactory progress has been made along this line.

In 1930 there was an average of 2.2 pigs owned per boy; in 1931, 2.5 pigs per boy; in 1932, 2.7 pigs per boy; in 1933, 3.0 pigs per boy;

in 1934, 4.9 pigs per boy and in 1935, 4.5 pigs per boy. In 1935, out of 893 boys, 441 owned sows.

The average feed cost per pound of pork produced in 1935 was 5.1 cents per pound and the average selling price was 11 cents per pound.

In spite of the large amount of time that the county agents devoted to the adjustment programs, they were able to keep their demonstrations in swine production going in good shape. The number of demonstrations conducted in 1935 did not vary materially from the number of demonstrations conducted in previous years.

--E.M. Regenbrecht, in 1935 Annual Report.

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THEN AND NOW

One of the first farm-products shows in America was held in Philadelphia on July 18-19, 1809, when the "Pennsylvania Society for Improving the Breed Cattle" held a show at Bush Hill in that city. Premiums amounting to $900 were offered for the best cattle and sheep, excepting the Merino. Officials of the Society explained they did not "think it worth while to offer a premium for Merino sheep as the public ought to be well aware of their importance."

--From the Rural New-Yorker.

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION

The regular annual meeting of the American Society of Animal Production will be held at the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, Ill., from November 27 to 29, 1936. Extension workers will be interested to know that Chairman "Pete" Brown and Secretary "Jim" Lacey are preparing a splendid program for the extension section. All who can arrange to do so should attend.

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WEST VIRGINIA 1936 FIELD-WORKER'S BLUE BOOK

The animal-husbandry extension staff of West Virginia issued a mimeographed publication under the above title for the use of field workers in the 1936 livestock-improvement campaign which is proving its worth. It contains 39 pages of pithy information including much useful subject matter, calendars of important livestock extension events, results of animal husbandry extension effort by counties, copies of sub-project programs, general economic background data and some teaching psychology material. It is an idea worth duplicating in other States.

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VISUAL TEACHING AIDS

Visual teaching aids, such as charts, posters, film strips, circular letters, and similar materials have long since proved their value in extension work. Practically all specialists have utilized them to a greater or less degree at one time or another. Some specialists have used such materials to a greater extent than others for distribution to county agents, local leaders, and other cooperators in the furtherance of their projects. Since emergency duties have been engaging so much of the time of practically all specialists, one of their pressing problems is how to keep their regular work going without the opportunity to give it the usual amount of personal attention. Local workers likewise have had even more to interfere with their normal contact with regular projects and hence are in woeful need of any type of assistance that will save time and effort.

It therefore seems important that subject-matter specialists take full advantage of all existing opportunities to supply local workers and cooperators with every possible tool which will aid them in advancing such projects that have as their aim greater efficiency in production and an increased quality of product.

The facilities of the U. S. Department of Agriculture are available to supplement those of the various States in the production of such materials, and of course a great deal of material suitable for such use is constantly being produced by both State and Federal agencies.

Quite a number of State specialists have done splendid work along this line, especially since the advent of the emergency programs, and it is believed that reports from them would be well received by other workers in the same field. If such workers will favor with examples of how they have been able to expand their field of usefulness by resorting to the preparation and use of such visual aids, space will be given to same in this publication.

Such reports should include specifically the materials which have been made available and how they have been used in the furtherance of project objectives, together with an appraisal of their value in terms of time saving and general efficiency.

It is believed that all who respond to this suggestion will be amply repaid for their effort for the "other fellow" very likely will give you a new idea. And remember that to the "other fellow" you are the "other fellow". How about it?

--C. D. Lowe

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"The man who takes up farming with the primary object of making money thereby, often does not even make a living, while the man who farms first for a living usually makes some money as well."

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

(Only Federal publications are available from Washington. Others listed may be obtained in most instances from the institution or agency issuing them.)

Federal

"Beef Cattle" - Economics Handbook for use of State Extension Specialists, assembled by Division of Cooperative Extension in cooperation with Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S.D.A., Mimeo. 27 pages. July 1936.

"The Western Range" - by Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. - Senate Document No. 199. 620 pages.

"Controlling Lungworms of Swine" by Benjamin Schwartz - U.S.D.A. Leaflet No. 118. 5 pages. 3 illus.

"Livestock Statistical Handbook, 1935" - U.S.D.A. Bureau of Agricultural Economics - issued June 1936. Mimeo. 158 pages.

"Yearbook of Agriculture, 1936" - U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. - devoted mainly to the survey of superior germ plasm.

"Midsummer Livestock Outlook Reports" - U.S.D.A. Bureau of Agricultural Economics - a 42 page mimeograph with charts. Aug. 1936.

"Relation of Population Trends to Commercial Agriculture, Especially to Production of Animal Products" by O. E. Baker - U.S.D.A. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. 14 pages. Mimeo. 19 charts.

"Revised list of Approximate or Average Weights of Various Commodities" - U.S.D.A. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. May 1936. 4 pages.

State

"Colorado Fattening Rations for Cattle" by Osland, Maynard and Morton - Colorado Experiment Station Bulletin 422. Feb. 1936. 120 pages. 27 illus.

"Avitaminoses in Animals" by Graham, Mitchell and Michael - Illinois Extension Service Circular 449. Feb. 1936. 15 pages. illus.

"The Brood Sow and Litter, Feeding and Management" by E. L. Quaife - Iowa Extension Service Circular 218. Mar. 1936. 16 pages. 6 illus.

"Market Hog Production" by E. L. Quaife - Iowa Extension Service Circular 220. Apr. 1936. 15 pages. illus.

"Trends in the Hog and Pork Trade in the United States" by I. W. Arthur - Iowa Experiment Station Bulletin No. 346. May 1936. 37 pages with graphs and charts.

"The Preparation of Feed for Colts" by A. B. Caine - Iowa Experiment Station Bulletin No. 347. June 1936. 21 pages. 5 illus.

"The Selection and the Care of Beef Cattle" by J. J. Moxley - Kansas Extension Service Bulletin No. 78. Oct. 1935. 32 pages. 20 illus.

"Beef Cattle--Herd Improvement" by W. T. Cobb - Louisiana Extension Circular, Vol. 1, No. 1. May 1936. 4 pages. illus.

"Beef Cattle--Herd Management" by W. T. Cobb - Louisiana Extension Circular, Vol. 1, No. 2. May 1936. 4 pages. illus.

"Storing Farm Pork Supply" by W. T. Cobb - Louisiana Extension Circular 162. Apr. 1936. 4 pages. illus.

"Blackstrap Molasses and Corn-soybean Silage for Fattening Steers" by M. G. Snell - Louisiana Experiment Station Bulletin No. 266. 22 pages.

"The Influence of Various Factors Upon the Growth and Quality of Fine Wool as Obtained from Merino Sheep" by Bell, Spencer and Hardy - Ohio Experiment Station Bulletin 571. July 1936. 57 pages. 15 illus.

"Marketing the Oklahoma Wool Clip" by A. W. Jacob - Oklahoma Extension Service Circular No. 382. 1936. 15 pages with tables and graphs.

"Grinding Corn for Swine" by McCarty, Nicholas and Keith - Pennsylvania Experiment Station Bulletin No. 326. March 1936. illus.

"Fattening Good, Medium, and Common Grade Steers" by Bentley and Ziegler - Pennsylvania Experiment Station Bulletin 329. May 1936. 12 pages with tables and illus.

"The 4-H Colt Club" by Burch and Ewing - Missouri Extension Service (4-H Club) Circular 46. Feb. 1936. 24 pages. illus.

"Trench Silo for Beef Production in Mississippi" (Questions and Answers) by Paul F. Newell and C. J. Goodell - Mississippi Extension Service Circular 83. Feb. 1936. 8 pages. illus.

"Wintering the Beef Herd in Mississippi" by Newell and Goodell - Mississippi Extension Service Circular 84. Mar. 1936. 8 pages. illus.

"Fattening Steers in Mississippi" by Goodell and Newell - Mississippi Extension Service Circular 85. Mar. 1936. 8 pages. illus.

"Manual of Beef Club Demonstrations" by Goodell and Newell - Mississippi Extension Service Bulletin No. 77. July 1936. 26 pages. illus.

"Oats and Dried Molasses Beet Pulp for Supplementing Alfalfa Hay in Winter Rations for Breeding Ewes" by Dickson and Barnum - Montana Experiment Station Bulletin No. 312. 1936. 8 pages.

"Judging the Age of Sheep by Their Teeth" - Montana Experiment Station Circular 149. June 1936. 4 pages. illus.

"Ranch and Range Balance - The Public Lands and Ranch Stability in Nevada" by Fleming and Brennen - Nevada Experiment Station Bulletin No. 142. Feb. 1936. 22 pages. illus.

"Ensiling Green Crops with Molasses" by Bender and Bartlett - New Jersey Extension Service Bulletin 178. May 1936. 4 pages. illus.

"Swine Production in New York State" by John P. Willman - New York Extension Service Bulletin 341. Feb. 1936. 48 pages. illus.

"Lamb - Slaughtering, Cutting and Curing" by Trowbridge and Severson - North Dakota Extension Service Circular 138. Jan. 1936. 36 pages. 51 illus.

"Some Effects of Breeding Ewe Lambs" by H. H. Briggs - North Dakota Experiment Station Bulletin 285. 1936. 28 pages. 10 illus.

"The Trench Silo" by H. F. McColly - North Dakota Extension Service Circular 135. Aug. 1935. 8 pages. 4 illus.

"An Economic Study of Hog Production and Marketing in South Carolina" by Marvin Guin - South Carolina Experiment Station Bulletin 305. Apr. 1936. 27 pages, with tables and graphs.

"Effect of Age, Sex, and Fertility of Angora Goats on the Quality and Quantity of Mohair" by J. M. Jones, et al - Texas Experiment Station Bulletin 516.

"Fattening Hogs in Washington" by Dept. of Animal Husbandry and Con S. Maddox - Washington Extension Service Bulletin 226. May 1936. 11 pages. 3 charts.

"Mass Feeding of Sheep with Copper Sulphate and Salt to Control Gastro-Intestinal Parasites" by J. H. Rietz - West Virginia Experiment Station Bulletin 271. June 1936. 11 pages.

"Color of Lean of Beef as Affected by Grass and Grain Feeding" by J. H. Longwell - West Virginia Experiment Station Bulletin 274. June 1936. 8 pages. 5 tables.

"Profitable Systems of Farm and Ranch Organizations for Certain Areas in Wyoming" by Vass and Pearson - Wyoming Extension Service Circular No. 60. June 1935. 62 pages. 10 illus.

Other

"Nutrition and the Importance of Meat" - published by National Live Stock and Meat Board, 407 South Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. 44 pages. illus.

"Wanted — Stud Horses and Jackasses" - Leaflet No. 225 of the Horse and Mule Association of America, 407 South Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

"Control of Animal Parasites" by Maurice C. Hall, Chief, Zoological Division, B.A.I., U.S.D.A. - a textbook of 162 pages (illus.) on general principles and their application - published by The North American Veterinarian, Evanston, Ill.

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